Bishop Isaac Finley

His Favorite Scripture

"And a highway shall be there and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it, but it shall be for those; the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein." Isaiah 38:8.

In Loving Remembrance
of
Bishop Isaac Finley

Born: January 31, 1884
Enterprise, Mississippi
Died: June 7, 1982
Oakland, California

Services Held:

SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1982, 7:00 P.M.
MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1982, 11:00 A.M.

At

GOOD SAMARITAN CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
625 West MacArthur Boulevard
Oakland, California
Bishop German R. Ross, Pastor

Officiating: Bishop B.R. Stewart

Honorary Pallbearers

Ministers and Pastors

Active Pallbearers

Elder Selman Marks
Elder Dennis Lyons
Elder Charles Colbert
Elder Curtis Reed
Elder Robert Jones
Elder Joe Thomas

Interment

ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL PARK
Richmond, California

Obituary
Of
Bishop Isaac Finley

JANUARY 31, 1884 - JUNE 7, 1982

A GIANT is dead! We are privileged in our life time to be exposed to the wisdom and spiritual vitality of a chosen few men who are especially selected by God for the building of His Kingdom. Bishop Isaac Finley was one of those men.

Isaac was born in Enterprise, Mississippi on January 31, 1884 to the proud parents, Martin and Malinda Finley. He was the eldest of nine children.

He spent the early part of his life on a farm with his parents and received his early literary training in the Enterprise, Mississippi community, at Westside Graded School.

At an early age, he united with the Bethlehem Baptist Church in Enterprise, Mississippi under the pastorage of the late Reverend Dave Moffitt.

In the year of 1912 the family moved to Orange, Texas. The spirit of God led him to attend the Church of God in Christ under the pastorage of the late Elder C. Compton. There he attended revival services and the Lord saved him and filled him with the Holy Ghost and became a member under Elder Compton. Under the leadership of Elder Compton he was made a deacon where he served faithfully.

While laboring and serving as a deacon, the Lord called him to the ministry of the Gospel.

In 1923 he was united in Holy Matrimony to the late Eliza Chatman who preceded him in death in 1966.

The spirit of God spoke to this manservant and called him to open a small mission while he was yet in Orange, Texas. He served and labored there with few to no people until he and his wife moved to McCloud, California. There he started a small mission-going from house to house; in the winter time and in the summer time he would stretch a tent. The Lord began to bless. Souls were saved and filled with the precious gift of the Holy Ghost.

He also started a church in Weed, California. The Lord again blessed and souls came to the little mission, crying out that they wanted to be saved.

He stayed in McCloud until 1926 then he and his wife moved to Portland, Oregon. He did not stay there long, nine months at the most. They moved to Oroville, California and pastored there for a while. He closed this mission and started evangelizing.

In late 1929 or early in 1930, he left for San Francisco, California and opened a mission under the auspices of the late Elder L.E. Cleaver.

In 1934, there was a Mother Jordan who came to visit his home. During her stay she told him of a small group of believers who did not have a leader and invited them to meet him. Upon meeting them, he accepted the challenge of pastoring them. The Lord blessed this flock. This was at 8th and Peralta Streets in Oakland, California.

[*Continued on next page*]

[*Obituary Continued*]

A few years later, he and the members were blessed with many, many souls who were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. There at 8th and Peralta, he labored, fasted and prayed, and encouraged many souls. He was a light in the church community and deserved the respect of his surroundings.

In 1950 the Lord gave him the urge to seek another location, thus, the church site at 8th and Grove Streets, Oakland, California. The church was located only blocks from downtown Oakland, and was his dream for a new church home. He led the membership to see the church location and encouraged the purchase of this church site. The membership agreed to purchase, and later moved to this location. Elder Finley initiated a worthwhile program to pay for the church site within three years and the Lord was with the body of people.

The church grew by leaps and bounds and was the soul saving center in downtown Oakland, California. He enjoyed the fellowship with other faiths and invited all men to seek the Holy Ghost.

His work at this site will ever be remembered. His hospitality, his ability to lead his people, his prayerful spirit and encouraging words to the many, many hearts that sought them, his timely sermons and his character was to his credit. He loved people and especially his young people and they loved him in return. His teaching was Holiness or hell...

He gave up the State Overseer position in Utah, Idaho and Nevada. In 1968, he became the State Bishop for the North Central State Jurisdiction with the late Mother Grace Ross and the late Mother P. Jordan as State Mothers. In this capacity he served well until 1972 when his health began to fail and in 1973 he gave up, because of his continued failing health, the Bishopry of North Central State Jurisdiction.

In 1971 he was united in Holy Matrimony to Sister Patsy Erath.

In spite of his ill health, he continued in the faith and not able to attend service on his own volition but was carried to service by his devoted wife. In spite of his failing condition, it meant much to see this GIANT sitting in our midst.

He was faithfully brought to the service of the Lord, even on the date of his death.

Bishop Finley has so lived that his summons has come to join that enumerable Caravan that has moved him to that mysterious realm; where he has taken his chamber in the silent halls of death. He has not gone as a query slave at night - scouraged to his dungeon but sustained and soothed, but he has gone with an unfaltering trust and approached his grave, as one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to a pleasant dream. Good night for now, Bishop Finley, we'll see you in the morning.

He leaves to mourn his passing: a loving and devoted wife, Sister Patsy A. Finley; five nieces, Annie Knatt, Creola Franks, Beatrice Piggee, Catrena Wright, all of Sacramento, California and Marlene Kinsey of Southern California; four sisters, Carrie Hobbs, Georgia Jordan, Arntee Hubbard and Mother Inez Davis, all of Oakland, California; one brother, Frank Finley of Oakland and sister-in-law, Victoria Finley, wife of Frank Finley; a foster sister, Missionary Charlotte Cox of Berkeley, California; other nieces, cousins, acquaintances and the Good Samaritan Family.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1982
7:00 P.M.
Master of Ceremonies, Elder Johnnie Cox

PROCESSIONAL.....

SELECTION..... Congregational
"We Shall Wear A Golden Crown"

SCRIPTURE..... Elder Jesse Wilson

INVOCATION..... Elder Rickie Williams

SELECTION..... Congregational
"In That Morning When I Rise"

EXPRESSIONS (3 minutes)..... Mother L. Randolph
Missionary Carrie Daniels
Missionary Clara Devine

SOLO..... Sister Etta Jackson

EXPRESSIONS..... Deacon A. Browning
Trustee Fred Hughes
Trustee Jesse Graham

SELECTION..... Choir

EXPRESSIONS..... Elder Selman Marks
Elder Mike Gipson
Elder Leotha Willis
Elder Carl Howard

SELECTION..... Congregational
"Everything Is Alright In My Father's House"

EXPRESSIONS..... Superintendent Jesse Dickens

VIEWING OF REMAINS.....

RECESSIONAL.....

Order of Service
For
Bishop Isaac Finley

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1982

PROCESSIONAL.....

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE..... Superintendent T. Daniels

INVOCATION..... Elder Q.C. Simmons

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE.....Superintendent R. Leary

SELECTION.....Combined Choirs

REPRESENTATIONS:

Pastors..... Superintendent S. Teagues

Superintendents..... Superintendent J. Dickens

General Board..... Superintendent L.C. Lewis

SELECTION.....Combined Choirs

EXPRESSIONS (two minutes)..... Brother L. Andrews

Brother L. White
(Sunday School Department)

Mother Minnie Thompson
Women's Department

Elder Eric Lyons

Mother L.M. Randolph
Women's Department

EXPRESSIONS.....Elder Johnnie Cox

SOLO..... Sister Ruth A. Lyons

EXPRESSIONS.....Jurisdictional Supervisors

California North Central.....Mother P. Wilburn

Central Valley..... Mother A. Woods

Northern Jurisdiction.....Mother E.M. Devers

Utah Representative

California Northwest..... Mother M. McGlothern
(International Supervisor)

RESOLUTIONS:

Good Samaritan Cathedral.....Sister Opal King

California North Central.....Superintendent A.D. Willis

SELECTION.....Combined Choirs

[*Order Of Service Continued*]

EXPRESSIONS FROM JURISDICTIONAL BISHOPS:

NORTHERN.....Bishop B.R. Stewart

NORTHWEST..... Bishop M. Mathis

NORTH CENTRAL..... Bishop German R. Ross

CALIFORNIA SOUTHWEST.....Bishop E.E. Cleveland

CALIFORNIA VALLEY.....Bishop Wilson

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CARDS, TELEGRAMS, ETC.....Sister Mildred Matthews

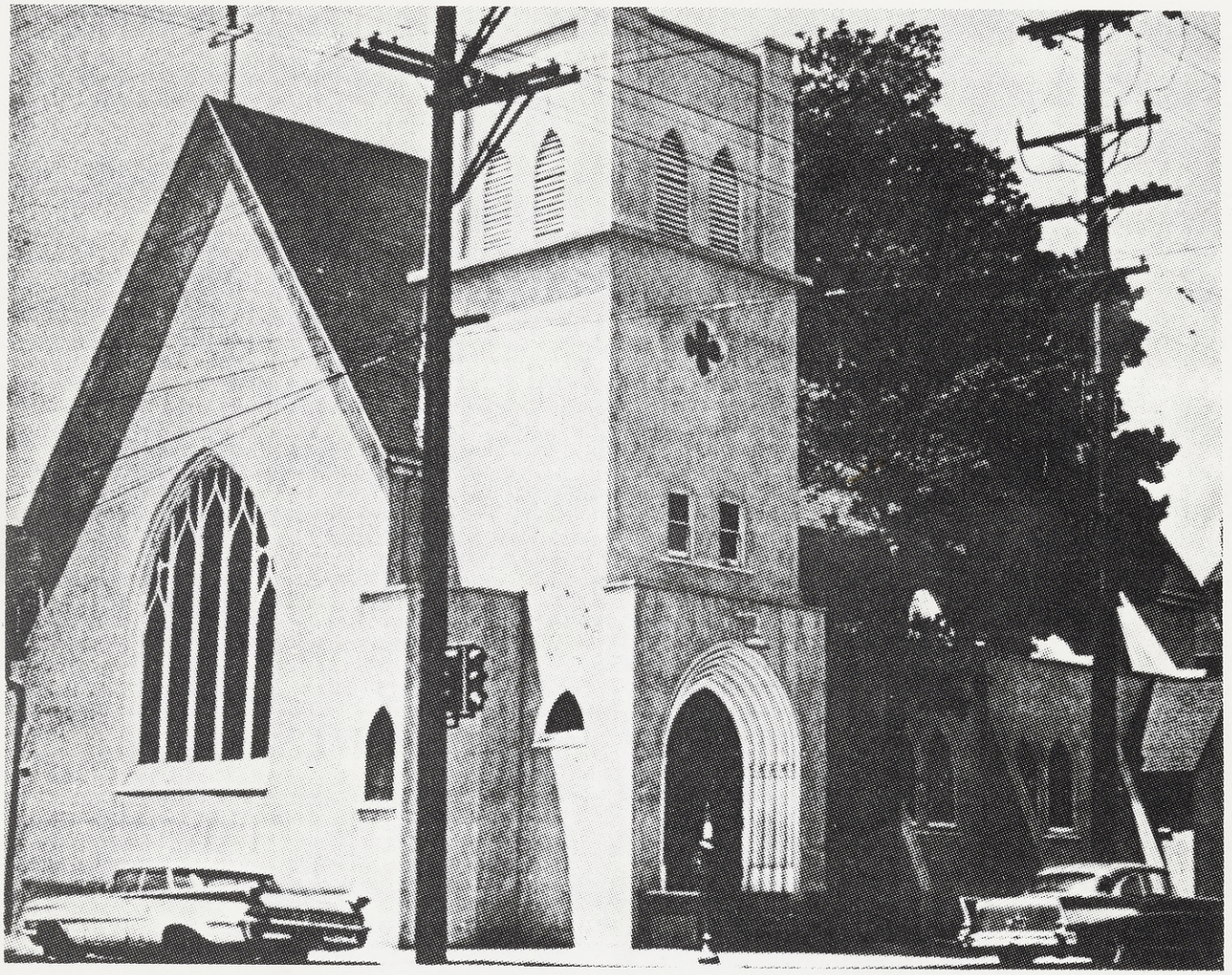
OBITUARY.....Mother Louise Perrodin

SOLO.....Brother D.L. Sneed

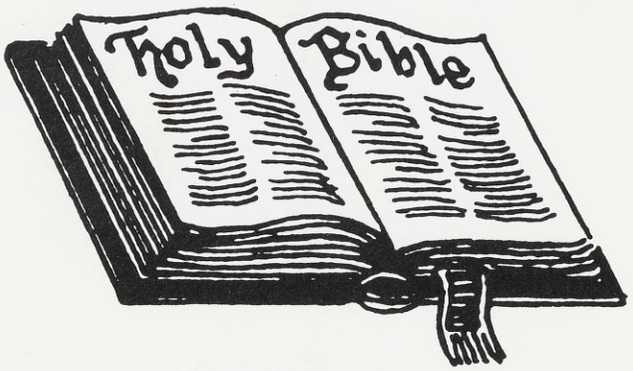
EULOGY..... Bishop B.R. Stewart

VIEWING OF REMAINS.....

RECESSIONAL.....



GOOD SAMARITAN CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST



PSALMS 134: 1 - 3

"Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, which by night stand in the house of the Lord."

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord. The Lord that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion."